

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 (c)
U.S. Application No. 09/731,981

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-11 and 14-26 have been examined and have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,940,073 to Klosterman et al. ("Klosterman") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,732,372 to Tomita et al. ("Tomita")

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 11 and 21-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Klosterman in view of Tomita.

A. Claim 1

Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references. For example, claim 1 recites, "said displaying device extracts the program information within said display time band having a fixed time range from a starting time to an ending time both fixed in advance and within a display channel range including the channel of the program which is most recently received, and displays the program information from the fixed starting time, if the date set by said setting device is not the present day."

Applicant submits that neither of the cited references disclose the above feature. For example, Tomita only discloses that a time range is predetermined, and a program table is extracted in accordance with the predetermined time range. However, Tomita does not teach or suggest the feature of displaying the program information from a "fixed starting time," as set forth in claim 1.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 (c)
U.S. Application No. 09/731,981

In addition, the Klosterman reference only discloses that a predetermined time range is the current time plus some time range (e.g. one hour). Klosterman does not teach or suggest the feature of displaying the program information from a “fixed starting time,” as set forth in claim 1.

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references.

B. Claims 11 and 25

Since claims 11 and 25 contain features that are analogous to the features discussed above for claim 1, Applicant submits that claims 11 and 25 are patentable over the cited references for at least analogous reasons as claim 1.

C. Claims 21-24

Since claims 21-24 are dependent upon one of claims 1 or 11, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Klosterman, Tomita and U.S. Patent No. 5,621,456 to Florin et al. (“Florin”)

The Examiner has rejected claims 4 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Klosterman, Tomita and Florin. However, since claims 4 and 14 are dependent upon one of claims 1 or 11, and Florin fails to cure the deficient teachings of Klosterman and Tomita, in regard to claims 1 and 11, Applicant submits that claims 4 and 14 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 (c)
U.S. Application No. 09/731,981

III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Klosterman and U.S. Patent No. 5,585,838 to Lawler et al. ("Lawler")

The Examiner has rejected claims 5, 6, 8-10, 15, 16, 18-20 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Klosterman in view of Lawler.

A. Claim 5

Applicant submits that claim 5 is patentable over the cited references. For example, claim 5 recites, "wherein, if the program of the program cell selected by said program cell selecting device, from the program table presently displayed by said displaying device, is a program which exceeds the predetermined display time range of the program table presently displayed and continues, said displaying device changes the predetermined display time range in such a manner that a start time of the selected program cell is positioned within a unit time at a lead of a display time band of the program table, and displays the program table within the changed display time range."

The Examiner acknowledges that Klosterman does not disclose the above features, but contends that Lawler does. The Lawler reference, however, only discloses that the display date and time are set to the current date and time, and the display channel is set to the last channel viewed before the program time guide was initiated. Lawler does not disclose the feature of the start time of the selected program cell being positioned within a unit time at a lead of a display time band of the program table, as recited in claim 5.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 (c)
U.S. Application No. 09/731,981

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 5 is patentable over the cited references.

B. Claims 15 and 26

Since claims 15 and 26 contain features that are analogous to the features discussed above for claim 5, Applicant submits that claims 15 and 26 are patentable over the cited references for at least analogous reasons as claim 5.

C. Claims 6, 8-10, 16 and 18-20

Since claims 6, 8-10, 16 and 18-20 are dependent upon one of claims 5 or 15, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

IV. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Klosterman, Lawler and U.S. Patent No. 6,230,323 to Hama et al. ("Hama")

The Examiner has rejected claims 7 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Klosterman, Lawler and Hama. However, since claims 7 and 17 are dependent upon one of claims 5 or 15, and Hama fails to cure the deficient teachings of Klosterman and Lawler, in regard to claims 5 and 15, Applicant submits that claims 7 and 17 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

V. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 (c)
U.S. Application No. 09/731,981

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


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